

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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EDUCATION DEPARTMENT REORGANIZES

(FRANKFORT, Ky.) – The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) is embarking on a new model of organization that is designed to make the agency more streamlined and efficient and to help provide services more effectively.

This reorganization proposal delineates a model that focuses on next-generation learners; next-generation schools and districts; support and services for all of our constituents; information and data services; and more. KDE began operating under this new structure on Monday, July 19, and an executive order from the Governor's Office formalizing the new organization will be forthcoming.

"This proposed reorganization addresses two major issues," said Kentucky Education Commissioner Terry Holliday. "First, this model will incur annual cost savings of approximately \$500,000 in salaries with the elimination of higher-level positions and increase the efficiency of the agency. Second, this model enables the agency to directly address priorities related to Senate Bill 1 and other legislative mandates, Kentucky's Race to the Top application and the Kentucky Board of Education's strategic plan."

The highlights of this model include:

- a structure that provides more direct reporting to the commissioner of education from KDE offices
- a logical distribution of programs, projects and teams based upon KDE's core, guiding and support processes
- grouping of efforts that address common activities and issues

(more)

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The proposed organizational hierarchy is as follows:

- The current structure of eight offices is streamlined to six offices, with a primary focus on the Kentucky Board of Education's strategic priorities.
- The number of operational divisions in KDE also is reduced by a third due to consolidation and redirection of strategic priorities.
- Some office, division and branch names have been changed to reflect the changes in priorities and work.

The attached organizational chart and listing give more specifics about the makeup of offices, divisions and branches.

Although office names have changed, and individuals within the agency may be assigned to new areas, KDE's mission is the same: to prepare all Kentucky students for next-generation learning, work and citizenship by engaging schools, districts, families and communities through excellent leadership, service and support.

The proposed new organizational model will enable the agency to target the areas of greatest importance and provide the services schools and districts need to ensure student success, while complying with additional budget reductions required by the biennial budget shortfall.

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